Roxanna Kong, Justin Chan, Andrew Chandra

FiND ME

Theme:

Neighborhood rescue preparedness

Target Audience:

Citizens living in the same complex or block

Problem:

When an earthquake happens, internet and cellular services are down. Citizens may be buried beneath rubbles and it is difficult for the search and rescue team to find them. How can local regular citizens help find people within their own areas to fasten the rescue process?

The Design:

In the near future, radio stations are obsolete due to internet technologies and its reception qualities. Cars started using internet to tune to music stations. Thus, radio technology are left for emergency purposes. There are current devices that broadcast radio signals for iPod in cars. We were imagining a tool similar to that, however it is used to ping locations towards the receiving device. This pinging device will be distributed to people in the same complex, and we will have training sessions to educate people how to find and rescue others as a drill.

In the training, we will rotate and assign three different groups within the neighborhood. The groups are victims, rescuers, and coordinators. The victim has to pretend that they are in situations that are in need of rescue such as underneath structures or hanging off ledges. The rescuers must find a way to help them as fast as they can. The coordinators train themselves using the pinging device to locate and distribute people as fast as possible.

In our design fiction, we used the radio technology since it can broadcast signals wirelessly without having to go through a receiver in space like Internet or phones. The signal sent and received should be independent in the device thus avoiding external factors that could break them. We hope that this tool can help find those people in need a lot faster than they would have now, increasing the number of people saved in a disaster setting.

Note: We'd still like to further explore the capabilities of radio signals in message sending.

Benefits:

1. Radio tools require little battery energy.
2. Radio waves are able to transmit far distances wirelessly.
3. It gives an accurate location information
4. Increase rescue efficiency, reduce casualties
5. Lots of room to improve / explore within radio technology
6. Gives hope for trapped people if they can receive signals from outside (information about searches)

Questions:

Are there any existing devices that are similar to our idea for the firefighters or policemen

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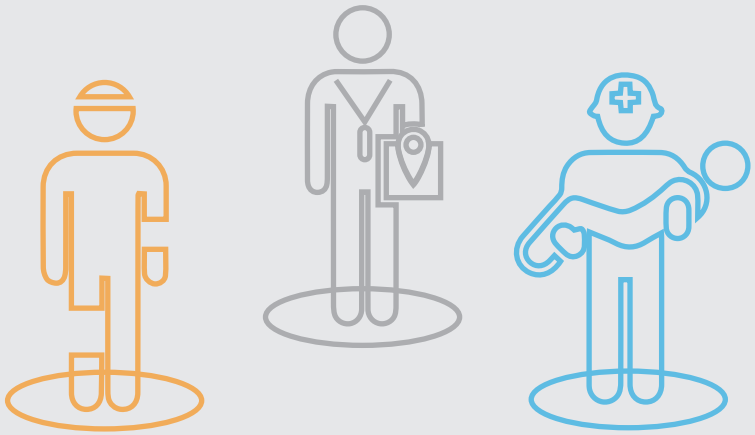

ROLE

Users will be rotate and assign three different groups within their neighborhood, they are Victims, Coordinators, and Rescuers.

RULE

1. The Victim has to pretend that they are injured and buried underneath structures. Victim sends signal to the Coordinator.
2. When the Coordinator received the signal, he uses the pinging device to locate and distributes people as fast as possible
3. Once the Rescuers get the location, they must find a way to help the Victims as fast as they can.